

THE TWENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
ABERGAVENNY
RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT,

With Statistical Tables,

PREPARED FOR THE RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY BY
THEIR MEDICAL OFFICER,

ELMES Y. STEELE,

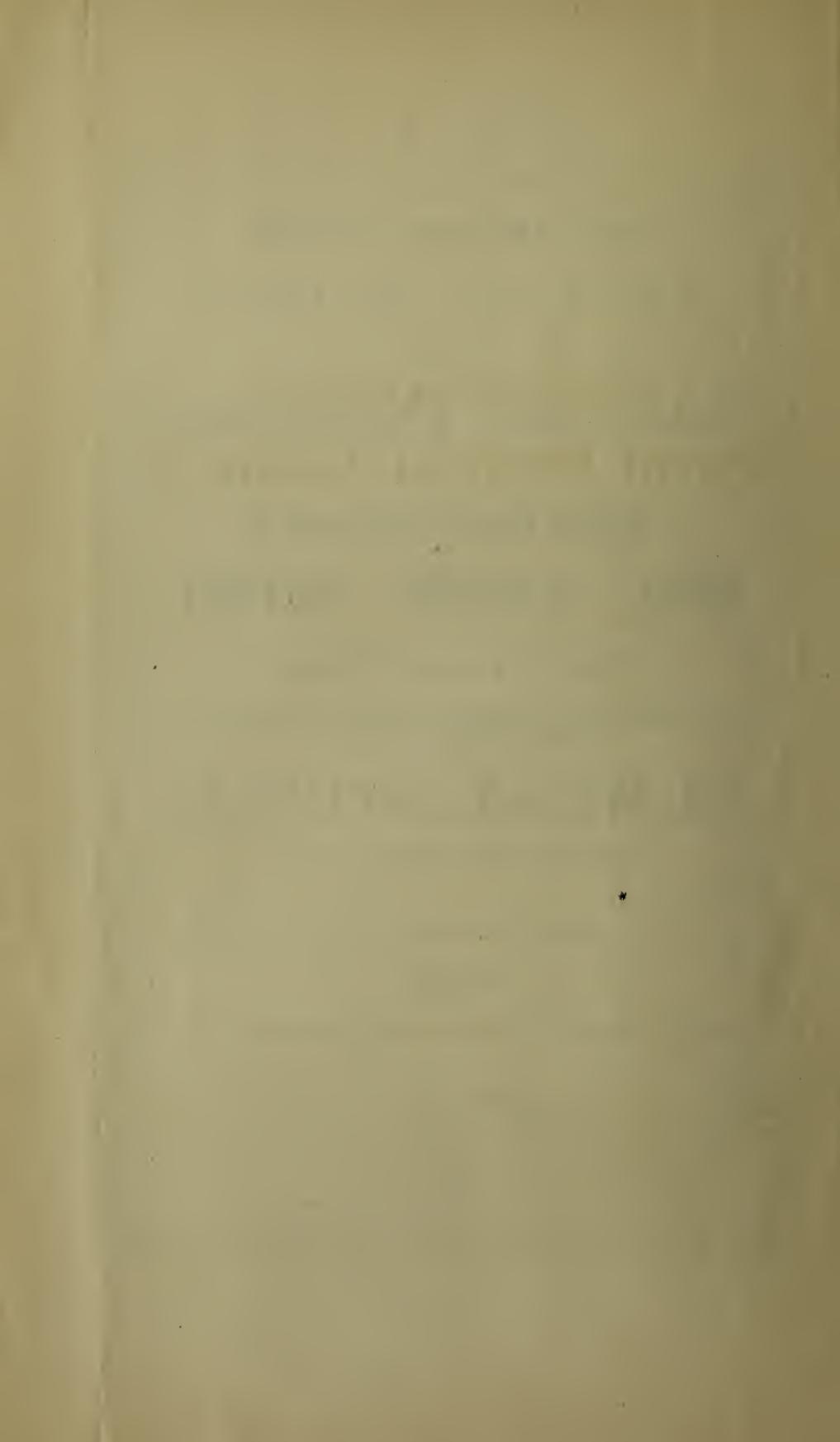
L.R.C.P., & L.R.C.S., Edin.

1895.

ABERGAVENNY:

M. MORGAN, STEAM PRINTER, "CHRONICLE" OFFICE, FROGMORE ST.

1896



TO THE

ABERGAVENNY

Rural District Council.



MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour of placing before you the report of the condition of the Abergavenny Rural Sanitary District.

I take the population of your district to be (excluding the Joint Counties Asylum) practically stationary since the last census (1891). The population then was 8,770: including the newly-added parishes of Grosmont and Llangwa the population is 9,414: and including the Joint Counties Asylum, 10,343. The area of the district in acres, including the Grosmont district, is 64,119. The total number of births during the year was 189, of which 96 were males and 93 females, showing a decrease of one compared with the preceding year with regard to the old district.

The birth-rate of the district (including the Asylum) was 18.5 per thousand: the preceding year (1894) it being 19.7 per thousand.

The number of deaths registered for the whole district is 181.

The number of deaths (excluding the Asylum) were 104, including 4 deaths occurring outside the district belonging thereto, but excluding 75 deaths occurring in the district but not belonging to it (Joint Counties Asylum). The death-rate for the year was 10.8 per thousand; the death-rate for the year 1894 being 11.8 per thousand. The death-rate per thousand of infant mortality was 2.1

The ages at which death occurred were:—Under one year, 23; one and under five, 6; five and under fifteen, 3; fifteen and under twenty-five, 5; twenty-five and under sixty-five, 76; sixty-five and upwards, 68.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The number of deaths from these diseases were 3, viz.:—scarlatina, 1; diphtheria, 1; and typhoid, 1, (the two first deaths being children under five years), showing a decrease in deaths from this cause of 1, compared with the preceding year, and a decrease of 8 compared with 1893, and being equal to a death-rate per thousand of .2

SCARLATINA.

Twenty-seven cases were notified to me during the year—16 cases of which occurred in the Grosmont district; in fact in the village itself, and necessitated the closing of the school. This was the only part of the rural district in which there was any epidemic of the disease, the remaining cases being evidently due to infection from adjacent districts.

DIPHTHERIA.

Nine cases were notified, of which 3 were in Grosmont. Of the remaining six cases 3 occurred in one family—one of which proved fatal—the original case being imported from a distance (in another district), the other two being infected from it. The other cases were mild forms of the disease, and I do not think were due to defective sanitary conditions.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Five cases occurred in this district during the year. One in Llangua—there was nothing in the sanitary condition to account for it, and I believe it to have arisen from infection at a distance. Of the remaining four the original case was brought into the district from a considerable distance, and was the cause of infection to the remainder.

ERYSIPELAS.

One case was notified to me during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

Improvements have been made in various parts of this district in this matter, although there is yet a great deal to be done. The question as to the water supply of Llanvihangel Crucorney, which has been so long before your Board, I hope will soon receive solution at your hands, and that, before another year has gone by, there will be a proper supply to the village. I think it is in a fair way of being completed. At Govilon, where although certain parts of the village are well supplied, others, including the School, are not, the Parish Council are interesting themselves in the matter, and I hope and believe will not cease to do so until all parts of that somewhat scattered community are properly supplied with water.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools have greatly improved in sanitary condition of late, and several are in every respect in excellent condition; others are, either in regard to the water supply or in other matters, capable of improvement, but generally there is a marked advance in sanitary conditions.

The School at Grosmont has been closed during the year on account of the epidemic of scarlet fever on two occasions, and opportunity was taken to put it in proper condition. Other Schools—Llanarth, Cwmyoy Lower and Llanvetherine—have been closed for various periods on account of measles, chicken-pox, &c.

Various nuisances in the district have been attended to by your Inspector and myself, and complaints have received attention, but there yet remains a great deal to be done. There are many cottages in various parts of the district that are not in a proper condition, and cases of over-crowding occur which have to be dealt with. But there is undoubtedly a distinct, although, gradual improvement over the whole of the district. In the village of Llanfoist there have been numerous complaints of nuisances of one sort and another, and, although the sanitary surroundings have been materially improved of late years, there is a great deal that we shall have to look to before the village can be pronounced in a proper sanitary condition.

In our newly-acquired parish of Grosmont there are also certain conditions as to the disposal of sewage, the water supply, &c., that require improvement. But, generally over the whole of the district, I think I can congratulate you, gentlemen, on the improvement made, and when we consider, as I have mentioned in preceding reports, the surroundings of our district, part of it being bordered by densely-populated mining towns, our centre being an urban district, and infested as we are with tramps, the only wonder is that our zymotic death-rate is not higher.

I am, Gentlemen.

Your obedient servant,

ELMES Y. STEELE,

FELLOW OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTE PUBLIC HEALTH.

(A) Table of DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the Abergavenny Rural Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belonging thereto.	4	4	Under 5 upwards	4	4			
Deaths occurring within the District among persons not belonging thereto.	75	1	1	43	30	Under 5 upwards	11	22	...	1	36	75

(B) Table of **Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness**, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1895, in the Rural Sanitary District of Abergavenny; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Name of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population of all Ages.			Registered Births	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.												Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.														
	Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1895	(e)		Smallpox					Fevers					Smallpox					Fevers.											
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22					
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Mambaneous Group	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Mambaneous Group	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Mambaneous Group	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal
Abergavenny (Rural)	..	1396	1396	8	Under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bettws Newydd	..	102	102	nil	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bryngwyn	..	252	252	5	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bwlch Trewyn	..	108	108	nil	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cwmoyoy	..	326	326	8	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fwddig	..	79	79	1	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanarth and Clytha	..	563	563	14	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanddewi Ryderch..	..	307	307	7	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanddewi Skyrnid	133	133	2	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llandelo Portholey	..	1119	1119	26	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianellen	311	311	7	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianfoist (Rural)	443	443	12	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llangattock Lingoed	181	181	4	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llangattock-nigh-Usk	265	265	2	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanover (Rural)	397	397	11	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llansainfraed	20	20	nil	Under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianvair Kilgeddin	290	290	9	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianvapley	311	311	4	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianvetherine	203	203	3	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianvihangel Crucorney	508	508	11	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianvihangel-juxta-Usk	105	105	2	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianwenarth Citra	236	236	7	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lianwenarth Ultra	1058	1058	28	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old Castle	57	57	1	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grosmont and Llanguia	642	642	17	5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Joint Counties Asylum	931	969	nil	Under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
					5 upwards	
TOTALS	..	9503	10183	189	Under 5	..	3	2	5	1	
					5 upwards	..	25	7	

"The Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District since 1890. There is no Isolation Hospital, but one will be completed in 1896.

